

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W

-----031004 182140Z /66

R 171517Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4888
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, LY, EG

SUBJ: LIBYANS PROTEST SADAT'S ISRAELI VISIT

REF: TRIPOLI 1448 (NOTAL)

1. INITIAL STUNNED SILENCE OF LIBYAN GOVERNMENT TO ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PRESIDENT SADAT PLANS TO VISIT JERUSALEM ENDED ABRUPTLY NOVEMBER 17TH WITH PRESS DENUNCIATION AND PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS IN OPPOSITION TO PLANNED VISIT. ACCORDING TO LOCAL MEDIA A LARGE PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION TOOK PLACE IN LIBYAN TOWN OF RAYAYINAH WHERE DEMONSTRATORS TOOK TO THE MARKET SQUARE IN CONDEMNING OF SADAT'S INTENTION TO VISIT ISRAEL. DEMONSTRATION ORGANIZERS CONDEMNED "ANY SURRENDER OR CONCESSION TO THE ENEMY WHO VIOLATED THE SACRED HOLY PLACES,

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OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY AND RENDERED ARABS HOMELESS IN OCCUPIED PALESTIN." DEMONSTRATORS REITERATED KHARTOUM LITANY OF "NO PEACE, NO NEGOTIATION AND NO RECOGNITION OF THE OCCUPYING ZIONIST ENEMY."

2. LOCAL RADIO BROADCAST DENOUNCED SADAT'S PLANNED TRIP TO JERUSALEM AS A POLITICAL COURSE THAT IS

SPLITTING THE ARAB NATION AND DISREGARDING ITS
"VALUES, CULTURE, RESOURCES, AND THE MARTYRS OF THE
1973 OCTOBER WAR AND PREVIOUS WARS BETWEEN ISRAEL
AND THE ARABS." MEDIA EDITORIALS DESCRIBE SADAT'S
TRIP AS "CONSTITUTING A GRAVE UNPRECEDENTED ACTION
WHICH NO RESPONSIBLE ARAB OFFICIAL HAS DARED TO
TAKE." THE TRIP WAS CALLED A FLAGRANT ACT OF
TRANSGRESSION AND WARNED THAT IF THE TRIP TAKES
PLACE "CALAMITY WILL BEFALL THE ARAB NATION."
EDITORIALS REPEAT DEMONSTRATION THEMES OF KHARTOUM
THREE NO'S.

3. CONDEMNATION OF SADAT'S TRIP RELATIVELY MILD IN
COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS MEDIA ATTACKS UPON EGYPTIAN
PRESIDENT. LIBYAN REACTION APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN
COORDINATED WITH PDLFP LEADER NAYEF HAWATME'S
EMOTIONAL PLEA FOR SUPPORT OF THE PALESTINIAN
CAUSE DURING NOVEMBER 16TH SPEECH TO POPULAR PEOPLE'S
CONGRESS SESSION. HAWATME APPEALED TO LIBYANS TO
SUPPORT PALESTINIAN REJECTIONIST POSITION AND RE-
JECT INITIATIVES OF "IMPERIALIST" UNITED STATES AND
"REACTIONARY PUPPET" ARAB REGIMES LED BY EGYPTIAN
PRESIDENT SADAT AND SAUDI ARABIAN KING. HIGHLY
EMOTIONAL SPEECH REPORTEDLY WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RE-
CEIVED BY PEOPLE'S CONGRESS DELEGATES WHO GAVE
HAWATME A HALF AN HOUR STANDING OVATION. IRONICALLY
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NOVEMBER 17TH MEDIA CARRIES NO REPORT OF HAWATME
REMARKS, PERHAPS SUGGESTING THAT LIBYAN HAVE DE-
CIDED TO GIVE PLO REJECTIONISTS LIMITED PUBLIC
EXPOSURE.

4. TECHNICALLY LIBYAN GOVERNMENT HAS STILL MADE NO
COMMENT BUT WHILE THERE MAYBE DISTINCTION BETWEEN
OFFICIAL POSITION AND "UNOFFICIAL" MEDIA REPORTS
THERE IS LITTLE REAL DIFFERENCE. NO DOUBT LIBYAN
CONCERN OVER MAINTAINING ARAB UNITY WITH ARAB SUMMIT
IN PROSPECT CONTINUES BUT REJECTIONIST OUTRAGE IS
BUBBLING CLOSE TO SURFACE.
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Message Attributes

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